UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

BEFORE THE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

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U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

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Application No. 09/603,303

ORDER RETURNING UNDOCKETED APPEAL TO EXAMINER

This application was electronically received at the Board of Patent Appeals and Interferences on November 29, 2006. A review of the application has revealed that the application is not ready for docketing as an appeal. Accordingly, the application is herewith being returned to the examiner. The matter requiring attention prior to docketing is identified below:

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) § 609 (Eighth Ed., Revision 5, Aug. 2006) in regards to Information Disclosure Statements filed by applicants state in part.:

An information disclosure statement filed in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.197 and 37 CFR 1.198 will be considered by the examiner assigned to the application.

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Appellants submitted an Electronic Information Disclosure Statement (EIDS) on December 21, 2004. It is not clear from the record whether the examiner considered the IDS, as the references listed thereon have not been initialed and the examiner has not signed and dated the form. Correction is required.

Accordingly, it is

ORDERED that the application is being returned to the Examiner:

- (1) for the examiner to consider the EIDS submitted December 21, 2004;
- (2) and for such further action as may be appropriate.

BOARD OF PATENT APPEALS AND INTERFERENCES

By:

PÁTRICK J. NOLAN

Deputy Chief Appeals Administrator

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